

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 MCT-01 PC-01 PRS-01 SY-05
USSS-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 A-01 AID-05 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 ARAE-00
PA-01 /063 W

-----181921 099008 /50

O 181801Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9982
USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 1609

E.O. 11762: GDS
TAGS: ASEC, PINS, CASC, CO
SUBJECT: KIDNAPPING OF PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEER; SITREP 12

1. FEBRUARY 18 EL BOGOTANO (WHICH HIT STREETS AT 11:30 AM TODAY)
CARRIES STRAIGHTFORWARD NEWS ITEM PAGE 2, ACCOMPANIED BY USIS-
SUPPLIED PHOTO OF STARR, HEADLINED: "KIDNAPPED GRINGO (AMERICAN)
IS NOT WITH CIA." ITEM REPORTS THAT PC DIRECTOR IN VISIT TO
BOGOTANO YESTERDAY (HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY PAO AND PRESS OFFICER)
CATEGORICALLY DENIED STARR HAD ANY TIES WITH CIA. STORY ALSO
CONTAINS OTHER HIGHLY FAVORABLE MATERIAL ON PC ACTIVITY IN COLOMBIA
FURNISHED IN COURSE OF DISCUSSION BY PC DIRECTOR SORZANO. US
OFFICIALS TALK WITH THE TWO SUB-EDITORS RESPONSIBLE FOR STORY
WAS SERIOUS BUT NON-POLEMICAL EXCHANGE STRESSING THE HUMANITARIAN
ASPECTS OF CASE AND JOURNALISTIC RESPONSIBILITY. MISSION HIGHLY
GRATIFIED RESULTS OF THIS EFFORT AND APPROPRIATE APPRECIATION WILL
BE EXPRESSED PERSONALLY TO EDITORS BY PC DIRECTOR AND PRESS ATTACHE.

2. OTHER DAILIES HAVE ALSO RALLIED STRONGLY TO OUR SUPPORT, BOTH
EL TIEMPO AND ESPECTADOR RUNNING PAGE ONE PHOTO AND CONTINUING STORY
TO INSIDE PAGES WITH EMBASSY RECTIFICATION. ALL THREE CALI PAPERS
CARRIED OUR RELEASE, TWO OF THEM ON FRONT PAGE. TRYING TO ASCERTAIN
COVERAGE OTHER CITIES.

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COMMENT: IN THIS INSTANCE PAPERS HAVE BROKEN A STANDARD POLICY
AGAINST PRINTING RETRACTIONS REFERRING TO OTHER PAPERS, AN INDICATION

OF THEIR PERSONAL INTEREST IN THIS CASE AND DESIRE TO COLLABORATE
WITH THE EMBASSY.

3. RADIO: TOLEDAR NETWORK, WHICH BLANKETS THE LLANOS REGION ON

BOTH MEDIUM AND LONG WAVE, HAS CONTINUED TO RUN USIS RELEASE.
MESSAGE CARRIED AGAIN ON FEBRUARY 17, AND ONCE MORE THIS MORNING
(FEBRUARY 18) IN 7:30 - 8:00 A.M. NEWSCAST.
SUTATENZA, A NETWORK CARRYING SPECIALIZED PROGRAMS TARGETED TO
FARMERS AND POOR IN RURAL AREAS, INCLUDING KIDNAP AREA, AIRED STORY
YESTERDAY REFERRING TO STARR AS A BOTANIST; RADIO SAYS IT WILL
CARRY ITEM TODAY IDENTIFYING HIM AS PCV.
COLOMBIAN GOVERNMENT RADIO (RADIO NACIONAL) CARRIED USIS RELEASE
ON 6:30 PM NEWSCAST FEBRUARY 17, AND PRIVATE RADIO CADENA NACIONAL
RAN ITEM ON ITS 9:00 PM MEDIUM AND SHORTWAVE BROADCASTS.
SANCHEZ

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: KIDNAPPING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BOGOTA01609
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770059-0159
Format: TEL
From: BOGOTA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770229/aaaaazfc.tel
Line Count: 73
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 53ac7cc4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Date: 04-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3286121
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KIDNAPPING OF PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEER; SITREP 12
TAGS: PINS, ASEC, CASC, CO, US, (STARR, RICHARD C)
To: STATE USIA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/53ac7cc4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
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